



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/904,309	07/12/2001	Ron Malhotra		2089

7590

04/09/2004

Jean-Marc Zimmerman
226 St. Paul Street
Westfield, NJ 07090

EXAMINER

TRINH, TAN H

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2684

2

DATE MAILED: 04/09/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/904,309

Applicant(s)

MALHOTRA, RON

Examiner

TAN TRINH

Art Unit

2684

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 July 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Pan (U.S. Patent No. 6,304,764).

Regarding claims 1 and 11, Pan teaches a device for hands-free operation of a mobile telephone (see fig. Figs. 4A-D), comprising: means over which a signal can propagate, the means having a first end and a second end, the first end being configured for coupling to a mobile telephone and the second end being configured for coupling to an automobile amplifier (see figs 4A-D), the means further comprising a hands-free amplifier (see fig. 2a, pre-amplifier 12) for amplifying a signal received by the mobile telephone (see figs 2A-B), the means transmitting the amplified signal to the automobile amplifier (see fig. 4a, car audio amplifier 24) for broadcast over a speaker in the automobile (see figs 4a), thereby enabling the driver to hear the signal without having to hold the mobile telephone (see fig. 4a-d, and col. 1, line 57-col. 2, line 54).

Regarding claims 2 and 13, Pan teaches wherein the second end is a cigarette lighter adapter plug (see figs 2a-b, car cigarette lighter 10 and cigarette lighter adapter plug 17).

Regarding claims 3 and 14, Pan teaches wherein the plug is coupled to an automobile cigarette lighter outlet (see figs 2a-b, car cigarette lighter 10 and cigarette lighter adapter plug 17).

Regarding claims 4 and 12, Pan teaches wherein the second end is coupled to a power source (see figs 2a-b, car cigarette lighter 10).

Regarding claims 5 and 19, Pan teaches wherein the device transmits the amplified signal over the means to the automobile amplifier at a frequency of 88.7 Mhz (see figs. 4a-d, and col. 6, lines 15-30 and col. 7, lines 31-37).

Regarding claims 6 and 20, Pan teaches wherein the device transmits the amplified signal over the means to the automobile amplifier at a frequency of 106.5 Mhz (see figs. 4a-d, and col. 6, lines 15-30 and col. 7, lines 31-37).

Regarding claim 7, Pan teaches wherein the automobile amplifier amplifies the signal received from the means and broadcasts the signal over the automobile speaker (see col. 7, lines 32-53).

Regarding claims 8 and 15, Pan teaches wherein the device includes a microphone that detects a word spoken by the driver, thereby enabling the driver to speak over the mobile

Art Unit: 2684

telephone without holding the mobile telephone (see fig. 2a, condense microphone 6 and voice activation 15, col. 4, lines 54-63).

Regarding claims 9 and 16, Pan teaches wherein the hands-free amplifier amplifies the word spoken by the driver and transmits the word over the means to the mobile telephone (see fig. 2a, condense microphone 6, pre-amplifier and voice activation 15, col. 4, lines 54-63, col. 1, lines 57-67).

Regarding claims 10 and 17, Pan teaches wherein the mobile telephone then transmits the signal to another telephone (see col. 4, lines 54-63, col. 1, lines 57-67).

Regarding claim 18, Pan teaches wherein the means employs an amplifier to amplify both the signal received by the mobile telephone and the word spoken by the driver (see fig. 4a-d, col. 1, line 56-col. 2, line 9).

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Frank (U.S. Patent No. 6,058,184) discloses speaker unit with boom microphone.

Sadler (U.S. Patent No. 6,058,319) discloses cassette adapter for mobile telephones.

Vilmi (U.S. Patent No. 6,075,999) discloses hands free equipment.

Art Unit: 2684

4. **Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314, (for Technology Center 2600 only)

*Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II,
2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).*

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tan Trinh whose telephone number is (703) 305-5622. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nay Maung, can be reached at (703) 308-7745.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the **Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office** whose telephone number is **(703) 306-0377**.

Tan H. Trinh

Art Unit 2684

March 30, 2004


NICK CORSARO
PATENT EXAMINER